

## ***Suicide Prevention Advisory Committee***

### **Meet-Me Call**

**December 18, 2007**

**Members Present:** Stan Edlavitch, Maureen Hennessey, Elizabeth Makulec, John Robbins, Dottie Mullikin, Susan Callaway, Donna Scott, Deb Cook, Chad Hampton, Mark Stringer, Lesley Levin, Sheila Osborn

**Members Absent:** Ed Reidel, Bill Heberle, Aurita Prince-Caldwell, Mariann Atwell, Sen. Charlie Shields, Rep. Connie Johnson,

**Others Present:** Scott Perkins, Rita McElhany, Joellyn Becker, Sue Kremer, Ginny Weil

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Call to Order</b>	The meeting was called to order by Dottie Mullikin, Chair.	
<b>Minutes</b>	A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote that the minutes of the November meeting be approved after correction of typo on second page.	
<b>Sub-Committee Reports</b>	<p><u>Public Awareness</u></p> <p>John Robbins did report that the subcommittee is looking at an award for reporting. This will be presented to newspapers the first year. It was further added that the Public Affairs offices of both DMH and DHSS have been contacted to get their opinion regarding the best way to be in touch with media. DHSS suggested snail mail followed by an e-mail reminder. DMH suggested e-mail since their snail mail list is several years old. Lois, DMH, is ready whenever the letter can be forwarded to her.</p> <p><u>Goals and Objectives</u></p> <p>Stan Edlavitch reported that a meeting call had been scheduled but canceled. He did have a conversation with Dottie in which they discussed setting up goals and objectives and measurable outcomes to go with the State Plan. Discussion ensued and the following options were</p>	

	<p>offered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create overall benchmark in Missouri</li> <li>2. Develop specifically how SPAC will contribute to the State Plan</li> <li>3. Take the plan from where it is now and move it forward to goals and objectives as national plan</li> <li>4. The subcommittee can look at everything and then set priorities and focus on a couple of areas.</li> </ol> <p>Most members agreed that #4 would be a good option to follow. Topics to be covered should be those that are already measurable. Suggestions included looking at existing data and reporting mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbers of youth effected by suicide since there have been two youth grants</li> <li>• Numbers of presentations done by Resource Centers are tracked by MIMH</li> <li>• Follow-up is also done on Gatekeeper Training</li> </ul> <p>The Goals and Objectives Subcommittee will plan to meet at the next face-to-face meeting of SPAC on January 15 and 16 in Jefferson City.</p> <p><u>Legislative</u></p> <p>No report.</p>	
<b>Vision Statement</b>	<p>It was reported at the November meeting that some negative reactions had been received from psychiatrists regarding the vision statement. The group had been asked to return to this meeting with reactions received from others they had contacted. Comments received from various doctors attending the Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention Grantee TA meeting in Portland were shared by Dottie.</p> <p>Several SPAC members voiced they were not comfortable with either vision statement presented. The reasons included that it may cause</p>	<p>It was agreed that wordsmithing is needed and that Public Relations folks should be consulted and possibly invited to the January meeting to interject their ideas on a vision statement</p>

	<p>stigma, doesn't feel like a vision but only a statement. It was suggested that a more positive statement is needed (Suicide is Preventable or Choose Life).</p>	
<b>Biannual Report</b>	<p>The question was asked of what materials, information would be helpful in the Biannual Report. The following suggestions were given:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customize national statistics to Missouri specifically                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-AAS</li> <li>-SPRC</li> <li>-CDC (by gender and age)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Put a page in State Plan of how Missouri compares with other states</li> <li>• Possibly a link to national strategy goals and objectives</li> </ul>	
<b>Meeting Location</b>	<p>Previously there has been a problem with having a quorum when holding SPAC meetings in other locations. Fifty percent of the SPAC membership is located in Jefferson City and would have to travel to other locations. The money is not available at this time. As funding becomes available, meetings could be held in other parts of the state.</p> <p>Options offered included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inviting groups to videoconference into the SPAC meetings</li> <li>• Offer field trip opportunities 2-3 times during the year</li> <li>• Resource Centers have advisory committees who meet. Possibly conference with these advisory committees for ½ day</li> <li>• Spend 1 ½ to 2 hours videoconferencing with Resource Centers</li> </ul> <p>Discuss ensued about field trips and outlining places throughout the state and possibly "piggy-backing" when already on business in the area.</p>	<p>After discussion a motion was made by Stan and seconded by Maureen to meet in Jefferson City and videoconference groups in Resource Centers when possible. The motion was passed by voice vote.</p> <p>A motion was made by Lesley and seconded by Elizabeth that visitors from SPAC be entertained as convenient to visit various programs offering suicide services. Individuals or groups would be welcomed. The motion was passed.</p>
<b>Volunteers</b>	<p>Attachment 8 which was included in the meeting packet referred to limited funding for staff support and therefore offered some options</p>	<p>After discussion regarding the above options a motion was made by Stan</p>

	<p>regarding how to distribute work among committee members. One of the options offered was to schedule teams of 2-3 monthly to respond to issue requiring action. It was agreed that this was a good theory but implementation may be difficult.</p> <p>Suggestions for addressing issues included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A generic letter , approved by SPAC, be available to send to the media for when issues need to be addressed (The group was not sure how to know the impact of this letter once received by the media)</li><li>• Bring media together on what is appropriate in covering stories of suicide and violence</li><li>• Steve Babb, Regional Health Director, would be willing to do education to the media</li><li>• Media workshop (partner with Mo. School of Journalism) and have Surgeon General to speak (This would take the place of the Spring Institute)</li><li>• Identifying someone from Journalism would be helpful</li></ul>	<p>and seconded by Maureen that SPAC would support a media workshop and work on the details at a later time. The motion passed by voice vote.</p>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p>The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for January 15 and 16 in Central Office.</p>	<p>The members are urged to mark their calendars with these dates.</p>